

The amendment (No. 2689) was agreed to.

(The text of the amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Amendments Submitted and Proposed.")

Mr. TORRICELLI. I express my thanks to Senator DASCHLE, Senator LOTT, Senator BAUCUS, Senator GRASSLEY, Senator NICKLES, and so many Members of the Senate who made this possible. I know during this Christmas season that the plight and distress of the families of those who lost their lives in Virginia, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania will be in all of our thoughts. That really is not enough.

Charities have raised an enormous amount of money, but it has not gotten to the victims' families. There is a victims' fund this Government has raised, but it has not yet gotten to these victims' families. This tax relief offers real and immediate benefits. It has the promise that as American citizens give funds to charities, the funds from those charities will not in turn be taxed as they get to the widows, the parents, or other relatives. It holds the promise that there will be a refund given to many of these families.

Offering financial relief is little solace given such enormous pain, but it is of some help. Families who have buried their loved ones are also paying mortgages, tuition, and buying groceries. This is real help.

I am grateful to the Members of the Senate who have helped pass this legislation. I am grateful to Chairman THOMAS of the House Ways and Means Committee who has been with us as an architect in its passage.

I express on behalf of all the families for whom this means so much in this holiday season their gratitude to all of you who have made this possible. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. CANTWELL). The majority leader.

Mr. DASCHLE. Madam President, I thank both Senators from New Jersey for their extraordinary work in getting us to this point. This was not easy, and I am grateful to them for their persistence, their leadership, and their efforts. This would not have happened were it not for their direct involvement to this moment. I say the same to the Senators from New York for the tremendous work they have done assisting us in getting to this point as well.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader.

Mr. LOTT. Madam President, I will be brief because I know we want to finish up the debate on the Defense appropriations conference report and get a recorded vote. There are Senators who would like that to occur sooner rather than later, so I will not belabor the point.

I am glad we worked out the agreement on the victims' disaster of September 11. I appreciate the cooperation all the way around. One can tell by the discussion that one of the reasons some of these other meritorious items were

not added is that once we had one, there would be two, three, four, and we could not get all those worked out in the short time we had, and we stood the chance of losing the victims' tax provisions. I am glad we did that.

Also, I understand many of these provisions, including the New York provision, are in the stimulus package that has been voted on by the House. We are going to eventually get a stimulus package, and I hope and expect that provision will be in the bill.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. CORZINE. I thank the Chair.

Madam President, I, too, thank the Senate and the leadership of Senator DASCHLE, Senator LOTT, the chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, Senator BAUCUS, and others who have worked with us to allow this victims' relief effort to come to pass.

Nothing can be more sincere and heartfelt during this holiday season than to respond with this legislation for families who have lost so much.

I thank the Senate for its efforts.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002—CONFERENCE REPORT—Continued

Mr. DASCHLE. Madam President, it is my understanding we now have agreement to go directly to the vote on the conference report to H.R. 3338. I appreciate everyone's cooperation in that regard and I ask that the Senate proceed. For the interest of all Senators, this will be the last vote of the day.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. BYRD. I will take 30 seconds. I had agreed, in the interest of letting Senators catch their planes, to having the vote and then have my statement concerning the homeland defense part appear in the RECORD as though spoken before the vote. That unanimous consent was not agreed to and others spoke. The Senator from Arizona spoke. It was my understanding we would all give up that privilege and we would vote without speaking. Others have spoken. I am not going to stand in the way of Senators going home on this occasion, so I want to make it clear I did not object in the beginning so everybody who had speeches could make them.

I am willing to give up my speech right now. It is a great speech, but I will make it after the vote. I wanted to call it to the attention of the Senate that I kind of begrudgingly agreed to that request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the conference report.

Mr. DASCHLE. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The question is on agreeing to the concurrent resolution.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. REID. I announce that the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) is necessarily absent.

Mr. NICKLES. I announce that the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. ENSIGN), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 94, nays 2, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 380 Leg.]

YEAS—94

Allard	Durbin	Mikulski
Allen	Edwards	Miller
Baucus	Enzi	Murkowski
Bayh	Feingold	Murray
Bennett	Feinstein	Nelson (FL)
Biden	Fitzgerald	Nelson (NE)
Bingaman	Frist	Nickles
Boxer	Graham	Reed
Breaux	Grassley	Reid
Brownback	Gregg	Roberts
Bunning	Hagel	Rockefeller
Burns	Harkin	Santorum
Byrd	Hatch	Sarbanes
Campbell	Hollings	Schumer
Cantwell	Hutchinson	Sessions
Carnahan	Hutchison	Shelby
Carper	Inhofe	Smith (NH)
Chafee	Inouye	Smith (OR)
Cleland	Jeffords	Snowe
Clinton	Johnson	Specter
Cochran	Kennedy	Stabenow
Collins	Kerry	Stevens
Conrad	Kohl	Thomas
Corzine	Kyl	Thompson
Craig	Landrieu	Thurmond
Crapo	Leahy	Torricelli
Daschle	Levin	Voinovich
Dayton	Lieberman	Warner
DeWine	Lincoln	Wellstone
Dodd	Lott	Wyden
Domenici	Lugar	
Dorgan	McConnell	

NAYS—2

Gramm
McCain

NOT VOTING—4

Akaka
Bond
Ensign
Helms

The conference report (H.R. 3338) was agreed to.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. LOTT. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. LOTT. Madam President, if I may take just one moment. I see Senator DASCHLE is getting ready to propound some unanimous consent requests.

Let me take a moment to say to the managers of the legislation and the chairman and ranking member of the committee, I know this has not been easy. There have been a lot of great ideas on both sides of the aisle as to how we could improve it or change it. You have been tenacious, you stuck with it, and you produced a good piece of legislation that is important for our country, important for our men and women in uniform.

This very morning the President called and said he was pleased with the result and he appreciates the leadership the Senate gave in this area.

I commend all of you, Senator INOUE, Senator STEVENS, and Senator BYRD, for the work that has been done here.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. DASCHLE. Madam President, I concur in the comments made by the Republican leader. We should note that this completes our work on all 13 appropriations bills. I commend both the chair and the ranking member for their work in getting us to this point. This was not easy, especially this year. It would not have happened were it not for the tremendous effort made by each of the subcommittee chairs. I note especially the efforts of the Senator from Hawaii on the Defense appropriations bill, the largest of all bills with which we had to contend.

I congratulate them. I thank them. I note, again, the great work they have done in getting us to this point.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST— H.R. 3210

Mr. DASCHLE. Madam President, I have a unanimous consent request to propound at this time. There will be many other unanimous consent requests made over the course of this afternoon. We will certainly notify Senators as they are propounded so that those who have an interest in a particular issue can be in the Chamber when we make them. Let me begin.

I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to Calendar No. 252, H.R. 3210, and the only amendment in order be a Dodd-Sarbanes-Schumer substitute amendment, that the substitute be considered and agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, reserving the right to object—I will object—I have a different approach in mind on this which I would like to propound.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. DASCHLE. Madam President, the Republican leader and I have agreed that we would keep the remarks involving these unanimous consent requests to a minimum at this point to accommodate those Senators who are still waiting to speak on the Defense appropriations conference report. I would like to respect our earlier commitment to them that they would have the opportunity to make their remarks. But we will certainly entertain these unanimous consent requests without extended comments. I appreciate everyone's cooperation in that regard.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, will the leader yield for a question?

Mr. DASCHLE. Yes.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I was simply going to suggest that he modify his unanimous consent request. I was not going to make a speech.

Mr. DASCHLE. I would be happy to entertain the modification.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I was going to suggest the majority leader modify his unanimous consent request to adopt one amendment on each side with regard to liability only.

Mr. DASCHLE. Madam President, I appreciate the recommendation and proposal made by the Senator from Kentucky. I know this has been the subject of a good deal of discussion. There is no doubt the issue of liability will be a matter that will have to be addressed. But if we open it up to any amendment at this late hour, there is little likelihood we can complete our work in time for us to be able to go to conference before the holidays begin.

For that reason, I would have to object.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST— H.R. 3529

Mr. LOTT. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of H.R. 3529, which is the stimulus package received from the House. I further ask unanimous consent that there be 60 minutes for debate equally divided in the usual form; further, I ask that at the expiration or yielding back of that time, the bill be read a third time and the Senate proceed to a vote on passage of the bill, with points of order waived.

Before the Chair rules on this unanimous consent request, I add that if there is any additional debate time—if 2 or 3 hours would be needed—I will certainly amend my unanimous consent request to accommodate more debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. DASCHLE. Madam President, I offer an alternative and make it a proposal that we amend the unanimous consent request made by the distinguished Republican leader as the following: That the amendment include a substitute amendment that I have at the desk which would extend unemployment insurance coverage for 13 weeks, and that the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed.

Mr. LOTT. Madam President, reserving the right to object, I want to make sure I understand the proposal: That we would not have a vote on that addition but to just include it in the package. Is that correct?

Mr. DASCHLE. Madam President, we have already indicated, of course, to all of our colleagues that we would not have any additional rollcall votes today. We would have to accommodate this request with simply a voice vote on the substitute.

Basically, what we are suggesting is that since we cannot reach agreement on the overall economic stimulus, the

one piece for which there is general agreement is the need to extend unemployment insurance. We did it three times in the early 1990s, recognizing that the limited regular benefit period of time was inadequate for a lot of those who are out of work.

Again, without getting into extended remarks, I would simply, by explanation, note that would be the intent of this unanimous consent request, which is to substitute economic stimulus with the 13-week extension.

Mr. LOTT. Madam President, under those conditions, I would have to object.

Let me just say that if we can set it up in a way to have a rollcall vote on that rather than a voice vote to make that very substantial change, I think we need to do both, and therefore I would have to object to that modification.

Mr. DASCHLE. Madam President, I yield the floor.

Mr. LOTT. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Hawaii.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002—CONFERENCE REPORT

Mr. INOUE. Madam President, pursuant to the unanimous consent agreement, I would like to proceed with my statements.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is recognized.

Mr. INOUE. Madam President, I am happy to rise today to offer my unqualified support for the conference agreement on H.R. 3338, the Department of Defense Appropriations Bill for Fiscal Year 2002.

I am pleased to present the recommendations to the Senate today, as division A of this bill.

The recommendations contained herein are the result of lengthy negotiations between the House and Senate managers and countless hours of work by our staffs acting on behalf of all members.

The agreement provides \$317.2 billion, the same as the House and Senate levels, consistent with our 302b allocations.

As in all conference agreements, neither side, nor any individual member had every issue go his or her way. It represents a compromise.

It is one that protects the interests of both houses while clearly meeting our national defense responsibilities.

For the information of all Senators, I should point out that the bill provides more funding for our men and women in uniform than was recommended by either body.

I want to note to all my colleagues that this would not have been possible without the tremendous cooperation that I have received from Senator STEVENS and his able staff led by Steve Cortese with Ms. Margaret Ashworth, Kraig Siracuse, Alycia Farrell, and Mr. John Kem, on detail from DOD.